

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 01513 291244Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

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PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 IO-10 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00

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SUBJECT: PROPAGANDIST'S REMARKS ON U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS, SALT,
ME

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. LENDINGRAD ZNANIYE (KNOWLEDGE) SOCIETY
PROPAGANDIST IN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, PRESENTATION ON
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DISCUSSED U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS LARGELY
IN CONTEXT OF PROGRESS TOWARD REACHING SALT AGREEMENT AND HOW
THIS AFFECTED BY U.S. INTERNAL POLITICS. END SUMMARY.

2. ZNANIYE PROPAGANDIST A. N. ZOLOTAREV NOTED IN SEP 28
PRESENTATION THAT POLITICAL DETENTE MUST NOW LEAD ALSO TO
MILITARY DETENTE LEST ALL THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH POLITICAL
AGREEMENTS BE THREATENED BY MILITARY TENSIONS. FOLLOWING IS
ACCOUNT OF HIS REMARKS.

3. HELSINKI CONFERENCE RECOGNIZED POLITICAL RESULTS OF WWII.
THIS IS A NEW BEGINNING BUT A GREAT AND STUBBORN STRUGGLE LIES
AHEAD. ALTHOUGH SOVIET UNION HAS NO PROBLEM WITH CSCE, U.S. DOES
HAVE INTERNAL PROBLEMS WITH HELSINKI CONFERENCE AS SEEN IN
DEMONSTRATIONS AT WHITE HOUSE BY OPPONENTS OF DETENTE AND
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PAGE 02 LENDING 01513 291244Z

PROPOSERS OF COLD WAR. PRESIDENT FORD HAS SPOKEN "CORRECTLY" OF

DETENTE AND CSCE DURING RECENT APPEARANCES, BUT HAS ALSO SAID THAT IF SALT NOT SUCCESSFUL HE WOULD ASK CONGRESS FOR \$3 BILLION MORE IN ARMS. ALREADY U.S. IS INTRODUCING NEW AND DANGEROUS TYPES OF WEAPONS, E.G. B-1 BOMBER AND TRIDENT SUBMARINES. REAGEN, A KNOWN POLITICAL FIGURE WHO IS RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT, HAS SAID ONLY WAY TO INSURE PEACE IS FOR U.S. TO BE STRONGER THAN ANYONE ELSE. THERE WAS A CONTROVERSY IN U.S. OVER SO-CALLED FIRST-STRIKE STRATEGY, BUT RESPONSIBLE FIGURES KNOW THAT SOVIET RETURN STRIKE WOULD ANNIHILATE ONE-THIRD OF U.S. POPULATION AND MOST OF INDUSTRY. THUS, NOT ALL IN U.S. THINK THEY MUST PROCEED FROM POSITION OF STRENGTH AND THERE IS MORE AND MORE MOVEMENT TO ADD TO DETENTE.

4. U.S.-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA ARE VERY IMPORTANT FOLLOWING VLADIVOSTOK MEETING BETWEEN BREZHNEV AND FORD WHICH DEALT WITH BOTH NUMBERS AND QUALITY OF WEAPONS, INCLUDING STRATEGIC BOMBERS. AND BREZHNEV AND FORD MET TWICE IN HELSINKI. NEGOTIATIONS ARE CERTAINLY VERY DIFFICULT, BUT IT HAS BEEN OBSERVED THAT THEY ARE PROCEEDING SUCCESSFULLY. U.S. BELIEVES OUR ROCKETS ARE TOO LARGE AND WE BELIEVE U.S. ROCKETS ARE VERY ACCURATE. BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO U.S. IS BEING PREPARED BUT CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE WHEN THERE IS PROGRESS IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

5. PRESIDENT FORD'S POSITION IS AFFECTED BY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AS HE FACES ELECTION YEAR, ESPECIALLY IN RELATIONS WITH CONGRESS, AND 1976 WILL BE A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT YEAR. FORD WOULD LIKE TO STRENGTHEN HIS INTERNAL POSITION IN U.S., BUT THIS DOES NOT INTEREST SOVIET UNION. WE NEED A CONCRETE AGREEMENT IN HAND RATHER THAN JUST OFFICIAL VISITS (KOMANDIROVKI) WHICH DO NOT MEAN MUCH AS SUCH.

6. U.S.-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION IS STILL MARKED BY DIFFICULTIES WITH TRADE BILL. AS OF NOW THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT ATTEMPTS TO REPEAL THE DISCRIMINATORY PROVISIONS. BUT, AS CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR HAS OBSERVED, THERE IS NO OTHER REALISTIC CHOICE BUT TO TRADE WITH SOVIET UNION.

7. IN MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT, U.S. MANAGED TO CONVINCE SADAT TO ACCEPT 200 AMERICAN SPECIALISTS. PERHAPS U.S. DOES NOT REMEMBER CONSEQUENCES OF KENNEDY'S ACTION IN SENDING 500 VOLUNTEERS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LENDING 01513 291244Z

VIETNAM. FURTHERMORE, ONE STILL DOES NOT KNOW HOW MANY SECRET AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED AT SAME TIME. GENERALLY, ONE MAY SAY THAT U.S. SEEKING POSSIBILITIES TO STRENGTHEN ITS POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST.
NEUBERT

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